



Surveillance (cont)

Special Programs – Through several focused epidemiologic activities the program monitors perinatal transmission, HIV incidence, clinical manifestations of HIV disease, mortality, the utilization and impact of care and treatment, and trends in high-risk behaviors.

Dissemination of Data – The Surveillance program analyzes data collected through the activities described above and distributes non-identifying summary information about the HIV epidemic in Louisiana through reports and presentations. Reports include regional and state-wide annual and quarterly reports, epidemiologic profiles, and other analyses as requested for program planning and evaluation or by the general community. Most standard reports are available on the HAP website address listed in the brochure.



Evaluation





With funding from the CDC, HRSA and State General funds, HAP maintains an Evaluation Unit to coordinate evaluation activities of care and treatment services for persons living with HIV/AIDS and HIV prevention interventions in Louisiana. The Evaluation Unit is responsible for developing and implementing evaluation plans, training staff from HAP and contracted community-based organizations, managing and analyzing evaluation data, and disseminating results through reports, presentations, and articles. Utilizing evidence-based methods, these evaluation activities allow HAP to continually assess the effectiveness and quality of services and prevention interventions and to utilize this information to support, modify, and/or develop activities to accomplish the goals of the program.



Mission

The mission of the HIV/AIDS Program (HAP) is to prevent the transmission of HIV and to ensure the availability of quality medical and social services for infected and affected individuals. HAP educates, monitors disease trends and offers services via client-centered, culturally sensitive, respectful and confidential methods.

Did You Know...

-  Every 9 1/2 minutes someone in the United States is infected with HIV.
-  Approximately 1,200 persons in Louisiana becomes infected with HIV every year.
-  In 2007, Louisiana ranked 5th highest in state AIDS case rates.
-  The lifetime cost of treating a person with HIV from the time of infection until death is approximately \$618,900, which includes the cost of medications, doctor's visits and hospitalization. Each year, new HIV infections obligate the State of Louisiana to over \$700 million in future medical costs.



Address



HIV/AIDS Program
1010 Common Street, 11th Floor
New Orleans, LA 70112

Phone/Fax



Phone: 504-568-7474
Fax: 504-568-7044

HIV/STD/Hepatitis Infoline



1-800-992-4379

Monday–Friday: 10:00 AM–6:00 PM

Web Address



www.hiv.dhh.louisiana.gov

LOUISIANA HIV/AIDS PROGRAM

Office of Public Health





Prevention

The Prevention activities of the HIV/AIDS Program (HAP) are primarily funded through a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the State of Louisiana and private foundations.

Major Prevention activities include:

Community based Organizations (CBOs) – Funding is provided for over 20 CBOs throughout the state to conduct HIV prevention activities such as outreach, HIV counseling and testing, and prevention for HIV positive individuals.

Community Planning – HIV prevention needs are determined by a statewide community planning group (SWCPG). The SWCPG brings together individuals throughout the state including citizens, state agencies and CBOs to provide input on the state plan.

HIV Counseling, Testing and Partner Counseling and Referral – HIV testing is provided at no cost through CBOs, public hospitals, STD and family planning clinics, school based health centers, community health centers, and correctional facilities. Referrals to medical and support services and HIV Partner Services are provided for persons who test positive.

Prevention Materials – A program which provides educational materials and prevention materials to parish health units, CBOs, and businesses in high risk areas to reduce the risk of HIV transmission.

HIV/STD/Hepatitis Infoline – The statewide infoline (800-992-4379) is available from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM Monday through Friday to provide information about HIV, STDs, Hepatitis and referrals to prevention and care services throughout the state.

Training & Capacity Building – Trainings focused on conducting HIV prevention activities and technical assistance to build the capacity of agencies to provide prevention interventions are available to publicly funded agencies throughout the state.



Services

The HAP Services Program is funded through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the State of Louisiana. All of the programs listed below are available to persons who are living with HIV/AIDS and meet the financial eligibility guidelines, when no other financial resources are available.

HIV/AIDS services provided include:

AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) – This program assists individuals at or below 300% of the Federal Poverty level (FPL) in obtaining protease inhibitors, other antiretroviral medications, medications for the prevention and treatment of Opportunistic Infections (OIs) and limited diagnostic laboratory services.

Health Insurance Continuation Program – This program assists individuals at or below 300% FPL in paying the premiums of public or private health insurance policies.

Co-Payment and Deductible Assistance Program (CDAP) – This program assists in the payment of deductibles and co-payments for individuals at or below 300% FPL covered by private or public health insurance.

HIV Core & Support Services – Funding is provided to CBOs throughout the state (primarily outside of the New Orleans and Baton Rouge Part A catchment areas) to provide supportive services to persons at or below 200% FPL. These may include case management, assistance obtaining HIV-related medications, transportation, mental health services, direct emergency financial assistance, dental care and substance use treatment services.

Early Intervention and Primary Medical Care – Ryan White Part B funds are utilized to support seven HIV specific clinics in six areas of the state: New Orleans/Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Shreveport, Monroe and the Northshore. These clinics serve as early intervention sites and provide HIV specific medical care and treatment services.

Home and Community- Based Care – Home health care agencies throughout the state are contracted to provide medical services in a home environment to HIV-infected adults and HIV-exposed infants who are at or below 200% FPL.

Legal Services – Funding is provided to a non-profit organization for the provision of legal services to persons at or below 200% FPL. Services include powers of attorney, do not resuscitate orders, interventions necessary to ensure access to eligible benefits and notary services.

Housing Programs – Housing programs provide for minor renovations and the operation of residential facilities for individuals living with HIV/AIDS.

Local Agencies are also funded to provide short term rent, mortgage and utility payments for persons who are at risk of becoming homeless. Agencies also provide longer term tenant-based rental assistance and work with local housing providers to identify client resources.

Minority AIDS Initiative – These funds support outreach and education to ensure that HIV positive individuals of color who know their HIV status and have never been in care, or who have fallen out of care, are linked to primary medical care and medications.



Surveillance

The HAP Surveillance Program is funded through a cooperative agreement with the CDC and is responsible for monitoring trends in the HIV epidemic throughout the state. One of the primary roles of the Surveillance program is to provide data to help plan prevention efforts and to guide the allocation of resources for HIV treatment, care, and other services for HIV-infected persons and affected communities.

The main components of the HAP Surveillance Program include:

General Case Ascertainment – HIV/AIDS cases are reportable by name in Louisiana as mandated by the state's Sanitary Code. The Surveillance program receives reports of potential cases of HIV/AIDS from sources such as providers, laboratories, and other public health programs throughout the state. Basic demographic, risk information and laboratory results are collected.